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The Colour Party proceeds along Bobcaygeon Road to begin the Remembrance Day ceremony in Minden on Monday. See page 9 and 10 for more Remembrance Day photos. /THOMAS SMITH Staff

Blumhouse Productions scouts AH film locations

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Times Staff

Parts of Haliburton County will be the backdrop for a Blumhouse Productions feature film.

The U.S. production company is responsible for some of the most enjoyed horror films of the past decade. You'll recognize such titles as the *Insidious* franchise, the *Paranormal Activity* found-footage series of films, *Sinister*, *The Purge* and its sequels, *Get Out*, and many others.

Such directors as Mike Flanagan, Jordan Peele, James Wan, and M. Night Shyamalan have worked under the Blumhouse Productions banner.

This is not to say that one of those directors and writers will be in Haliburton County when the Canadian arm of the outfit sets lights and cameras at Camp Kandalore this fall.

see NUMBER page 2

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AHFS celebrates firefighters' excellence

by THOMAS SMITH
Editor

On Friday, Nov. 1, members of the Algonquin Highlands Fire Services (AHFS) were recognized for their prolonged dedication and commitment as volunteer firefighters. While Mike French has been the Fire Chief of the AHFS for the past four year, he says that the AHFS has always been world-class and a great team.

"Cavanagh left it in good shape," says French.

At the Awards Night celebration at the Dorset Rec Centre held on Friday, honours presented included:

Andy McEachern for 55 years of service
Tony Aymong for 50 years of service
John Hogg for 45 years of service
Garry Logan for 40 years of service
Scott Hayden for 35 Years of service
George Sharp for 25 years of service
Stuart Humphries, Robert Sargent & Chris Shelly for 20 years of service
Kevin Alcock, Brandon Thomas & Adam Thorn for 15 years of service
Dan Gaughan for 10 years of service
Kennith Cox, Jacques Dailloux, Mark Dimpfel, Skylar Kraus, Mike Maloney, Dylan Nyman & Chris Rabjohn for five years of service

Provincial and Federal Service Medals and Bars were awarded to Dan Flynn, Scott Hayden, Stuart Humphries, Renzo Rosati, Chris Shelly, George Sharp, Garry Logan, John Hogg, Tony Aymong, and Andy McEachron.

French's firefighting career began with the Chippewas of Rama First Nation and he has been involved with firefighting for 35 years. Born to a family of emergency workers, French says that he is living his dream of working in fire services and is immensely proud of the AHFS team.

This year, the AHFS welcomed their newest pumper to the Dorset fire station. This means that all of the equipment that the AHFS is using is up-to-date and no equipment is older than 20 years old, which French says is "very nice to see."

The technical rescue team has also been successful for the AHFS. This team of trained volunteers are capable of conducting ice water rescue, swift water rescue, and are currently training to get certification for high angle rescue for conducting rescues on cliffs and places like the Dorset Tower.

French says that the number of emergency calls to the AHFS is low, similar to last year. "We are lucky that it has been pretty quiet for forest fires this year," says French.

French would like to thank his team of volunteers for everything they do and everything they do for the community. He acknowledges the sacrifices that volunteer firefighters make to keep the AH community safe, whether it be time away from home or loved ones, French is grateful for his dedicated team of volunteers.

"It is a real family commitment," says French.

The AHFS is always open for recruitment. For anyone that is interested, it is encouraged to visit an AHFS station and speak to an officer who will discuss the position and point you in the right direction. Becoming a volunteer firefighter is a rewarding experience that not only allows you to protect those in your community, but to gain camaraderie with fellow firefighters.

"On behalf of the AHFS, we wish you a fire-safe Christmas this year. Remember, working smoke alarms save lives," says French.

Number of vehicles complicates parking request: mayor

from page 1

Catherine Crawford, the production's location manager, asked Algonquin Highlands township council to greenlight the use of certain roads and laneways to park equipment and trailers.

Township council approved the request with a $10,000 damage deposit that will be returned to the company after a site inspection following the production.

Crawford said the crew will need use of Kanawa Lane, at the bottom of Camp Kandalore Road, to film a scene.

That scene will involve campers arriving at the camp during a blizzard. Kanawa Lane will play as a road off of a highway where actors have to get out of the car to see where the road is.

They drive along Kanawa Lane to the entrance of Camp Kandalore and are greeted by a camp employee on a horse who guides them up the road towards the camp.

A combination of visual effects and special effects will be used to create the snow along with large fans to stir the blizzard conditions.

Crawford asked about parking some crew vehicles on Partridge Lake Road and in the lot across from the Algonquin Highland Trails office, and on a portion of the Raven Lake Boat Launch.

The crew of about 150 people will be gearing up for the film shoot until Nov. 25. Filming at Camp Kandalore starts the next day and will run until Dec. 13. Everything will be in the can by Dec. 20.

Crawford said Ontario has benefitted by Blumhouse having been lured into Canada and away from location work in New York State.

Crawford said she spoke to the Raven Lake Cottagers' Association about using part of the boat launch parking lot. But they poo-pooed the idea and asked that cars be parked along the highway as opposed to near the water. There was also a second location for crew parking they eyed at the Frost Centre, she said.

"I must say it's a rather complicated request," Mayor Liz Danielsen said. "You sound like you have an awful lot of vehicles to support."

The mayor asked why the parking on the road is necessary instead of the camp's own space. She said the Raven Lake landing doesn't belong to Algonquin Highlands township. It belongs to Lake of Bays, but Algonquin Highlands has a hand in winter maintenance there.

"We would have concerns, generally, in all areas about plowing," Danielsen said. "And if there was a significant snowfall how the vehicles that you would have placed would impact our ability to plow."

"We are parking as much as we can up at the camp," Crawford said. "(We're) basically taking over every square inch of parking that's available."

"I don't want to sound like we're not supportive of film crews in the county and in Algonquin Highlands," Danielsen said. "But there are some practical complications that we just need to make sure are addressed."

Danielsen said one of the concerns that's been brought to her is about the imitation snow that will be used.

Crawford said it's a biodegradable substance and snow blankets are also used. Those are pulled up and carted away when the scene ends.

Adam Thorn, the township's public works manager, said he has no concerns about snowplowing along the routes requested for parking.

"The road is wide enough to accept parking along the side," he said. "Currently, there is parking available for the staff of the camp for the wintertime."

Large buses and school buses are usually parked there.

"Plowing-wise, we've always made arrangements to get around the buses with ease," Thorn said.

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Unlocking the past with the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

by **EMILY STONEHOUSE**
Times Staff

The importance of memories is not something that should be taken for granted.

As we age, the day-to-day happenings that were once so carved out, begin to fade away, sometimes making room for new memories, other times retiring for good.

Robert Wong, the program coordinator for the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, has introduced Reminiscence Sessions to the folks at Hyland Crest and Highland Wood long term care homes, in an attempt to allow residents to reconnect with their pasts.

Wong is exploring the sessions as a part of his graduate studies, which is a Masters in Museum Studies, and must include a practicum element. "We needed to choose something that has not been done before in the community, but has been done in other locations," said Wong. "I started thinking about the accessibility of heritage, and offering accessibility to museum objects."

The Minden Hills Cultural Centre boasts an impressive collection of Haliburton County heritage, including newspaper archives, books, and a wealth of objects from the past. But so often, these objects are stored away for safe-keeping, or only available for viewing if you attend the facility.

Wong wanted to change that, and make the museum accessible to others who couldn't physically make it to the Cultural Centre.

He set about creating a kit that could be brought to the long term care homes, in an effort to allow the residents to observe the artifacts. "When it comes to retrieving memories, your senses are huge," said Wong. "You have to see it, feel it, touch it. You can enable different ways for residents to have these memories."

With the long term care homes only a short distance from the Cultural Centre, Wong noted that it made sense to explore some sort of collaboration. "Hyland Crest is very active when it comes to having programs all the time," he said. "They were always looking for new programs and initiatives for their residents."

Many of the residents have called Minden home for the majority of their lives, which allowed Wong to cater to their demographic when developing the kit, bringing in objects that were more recent in the lifetime of the residents.

With this particular batch of kits, Wong focused on the theme of leisure, tourism, and recreation over the years in Minden. The kit included old skates, some ceremonial candlestick holders, tourism pamphlets from over the years, maps of Haliburton County from the 1970s and 1980s, newspaper clippings, and photos of different sports in the area.

Objects from the Reminiscence Sessions included candlesticks, sports photos, and maps from Haliburton County. /Submitted

"There are so many layers to it," said Wong, noting that from an academic perspective, you can see the residents cognitively capturing pieces of their past. "You can see them turning the gears in their brain."

"It's exciting to see," he said. "You can see these residents talking about their memories that have not been unlocked in a long time."

Wong offered three Reminiscence Sessions with the Minden residents, each with slightly different audiences. He said some residents were able to easily retrieve some pieces of their past with the tangible reminders, while others could grasp only at wisps of their memories, but still seemed appreciative to the programming.

Wong is in the process of coordinating another Reminiscence Session for December, this time with a theme of household objects.

He looks forward to meeting new residents, and reconnecting with the ones he established a relationship with during the last sessions. "It's very rewarding," he said. "And you can see the results, you can see them retrieving those memories from so long ago."

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COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted in-person and with electronic participation. Meetings begin at 9:00 am unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:
- **November 14 – Regular Council Meeting**
- **November 21 – Special Meeting**
- **November 28 – Regular Council Meeting**
- **December 12 – Regular Council Meeting**

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal. Please note that there is only one meeting in December.

Notice of Location Change for Regular Council Meeting

Due to renovations taking place in the Minden Hills Council Chambers, the November 14th Regular Council Meeting will be held in the **County of Haliburton's Council Chambers located at 11 Newcastle Street, Minden**.

PUBLIC WORKS TENDER OPPORTUNITIES

Minden Hills Public Works Department is currently seeking bids for hourly rates for the rental truck and construction equipment and an aggregate and material rate from external sources. Please visit our website to view the tender documents.

MINDEN HILLS Cultural Centre

MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

- Saturday, November 16 from 11am to 3pm: Annual Christmas in the Village – please see separate ad for details.
- Now accepting vendor registration forms for the Artisan Marketplace at our Christmas in the Village event. Email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca for vendor information.

NOTICE: SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL & PUBLIC MEETING – 2025 BUDGET PROCESS

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2024, at 9:00 am during its Special Council Meeting regarding the 2025 Budget Process. Members of the Public are welcome to participate and provide their comments.
To view the full notice and for more information visit www.mindenhills.ca or contact our office at 705-286-1260.

A MESSAGE FROM COMMUNITY SERVICES

All Cemetery Fall clean-ups are taking place Nov. 18 – 30, 2024.

HOLIDAY FOOD AND TOY DRIVE AT THE SCOTCH LINE LANDFILL

We hope to see you at our Holiday Food and Toy Drive taking place at the Scotch Line Landfill November 24, 2024. All donations collected go directly to the Minden Community Food Centre to help ensure everyone has a great Christmas.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are Township currently seeking energetic and highly motivated individuals for the following positions:
- Municipal Law Enforcement Officer
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Please visit our website at www.mindenhills.ca/careers/ for a complete list of available positions and how to apply.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

- Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Village Green on Friday Nov.15th from 6:00pm-8:00pm. Come out and help Community Services kick off this festive season!
- Minden Hills Santa Claus Parade is back on Saturday Nov. 16th starting at 11am at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena. Parade will travel along Parkside St to Bobcaygeon Road to Newcastle and end at the Township office parking lot on St. Germaine. Bring some non-perishable food items to be collected by MCFC during the parade.

NOTICE: PUBLIC MEETING - PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TOWNSHIP'S FEES AND CHARGES BY-LAW

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, November, 28, 2024, during its Regular Council Meeting regarding Proposed changes to the Township's Fees and Charges By-law.
The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON.

7 Milne Street, PO Box 359, Minden, ON K0M 2K0 705-286-1260 Toll Free: 1-844-277-1260 Fax 705-286-4917 Township.Minden.Hills Minden Hills@twpmindenhills

AH mayor praises scope of green burial plans

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

Students from Fleming College stand with the completed timber frame structure for the green burial site's gazebo. / FILE

Burials and naturalization work at St. Stephen's Cemetery's natural burial section should proceed from front to back.

That's for aesthetic, practical, and biological reasons, said Carolyn Langdon of the Haliburton County Master Gardeners. She said green or natural burial landscaping calls for reduced grass mowing and increased woodland cover to create a more complex range of habitats.

"We are advocating a deliberate planting augmented by natural regeneration," she said. "Natural regeneration on its own would take decades and I think some of us here don't have that kind of time to see results."

Benefits in green burials is that carbon is sequestered, better air is provided, and shade from the sun and weather is achieved.

"This is also a new opportunity for municipalities looking to green their assets and reduce their carbon footprint," she said.

Nature would be the focus of this new cemetery landscape rather than the preservation of individual graves. Identities of the deceased may be noted on a communal memorialization on naturally-sourced materials.

Langdon said plot purchasers want to see a positive vision as opposed their final resting place overgrown with weeds and unkempt grasses.

The earliest green cemeteries in the 1990s adopted a simple concept of planting a tree on a grave. More practical approaches to naturalizing followed until today's burials in wildflower meadows and woodlands.

The proposed planting design in the natural burial section at St. Stephen's Cemetery is divided into three parts.

Those include a gazebo section to be completed next year at a cost of $5,100. It will include about 50 tree and shrub saplings and 100 native wild plants.

A 15-foot north setback section that will be done in 2026 as the second part at a cost of about $2,600. It will include 25 tree and shrub saplings and 50 native plants.

The third part will comprise a 15-foot section and could cost $2,600. Completed in 2027, it will be a recreation of the second part. That third phase will include 156 green burial plots.

Subsequent development phases would follow, Langdon said.

"We are aware that this is the first green burial section in the entire county and that many, including potential purchasers and other townships, will be watching," she said. "It also makes the most sense from a naturalization point of view."

Mayor Liz Danielsen commended the master gardeners on their work invested so far.

"I have to say, from my perspective, I'm a little shocked because my mind has been focused on a wildflower meadow over the burial site as opposed to an all-encompassing policy for the surrounding area," she said.

"I was shocked to see the number of trees. I just hadn't considered that bushes or trees would be appropriate in the actual burial site area."

Ultimately, the overall project that is agreed upon comes down to the annual municipal operating and capital budgets.

"That's just part of our standard practice," Danielsen said. "We're not talking about large amounts of money."

Algonquin Highlands is a woodland environment so it makes sense that naturalized burial would be undertaken there, Deputy Mayor Jennifer Dailloux said.

"This, of course, will be further discussed at our projects and priorities in budget discussions," Danielsen said.

A Special Note to our valued subscribers

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In anticipation of a possible strike by Canada Post we are making adjustments to how you can access your paper(s).

In the event of Canada Post Strike, delivery of all mail could be interrupted. During a strike the Times will continue to operate and print as always.

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3. **Stop by the Times office** 2 IGA Rd., Unit 2 Minden, **Wednesday, 9am - 1pm** and pick up your paper at no cost to you.

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County corporation for new tourism tax nears completion

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Times Staff

The Haliburton County Tourism Development Corporation is taking shape.

That's the name of the municipal services corporation that will use a portion of the proceeds from the new accommodation tax levied against operators of short-term rental (STR) properties in the lower tier townships.

The four mayors of the county's townships will be the corporation's interim directors and will develop governance policies and various services agreements. Three other public positions will be filled by people appointed by county council in the top half of next year.

The county will have authority over the development corporation's annual budgeting. County tourism and economic development staff will implement its operation plans.

According to a report prepared for the upper tier council, it's believed to take as long as three years to realize full revenue potential. Based on information received from the province, it's believed that revenue potential is in the area of $1.5 million a year from the Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT).

The MAT came into effect Oct. 1 as part of new rules governing STRs in the county. Half of the tax revenue collected will go to the respective township with the other half being kicked up to the new corporation and used for tourism industry development and promotion.

Scott Ovell, the county's economic development and tourism director, said the work of tourism development corporations is usually farmed out to consultants. The only centres he could find that kept the work in-house were larger cities such as Mississauga, Toronto, and Hamilton.

"Safe to say they have a few more staff resources than we do," he said.

The provincial government doesn't specify what needs to be included in a spelled-out business case for a municipal services corporation. It focuses on the rationale for the entity's creation and what its focus will be.

"That mandate doesn't really differ from what our tourism department does acting as the (destination marketing organization) for the county in its current role," Ovell said.

The mayors of the four municipalities speak for their respective organizations. So he said it's fitting they be on the corporation's interim board of directors.

"A big part of that as well is we would be developing the service agreement that will be proposed to your township," Ovell said. "That service agreement is really going to outline what the spending priorities are for the municipal services corporation in relation to your individual township.

"In a perfect world we'd like those four documents to be as close to the same as possible. But we understand that each one of you have your own strategic plan."

As such, each municipality's plan may include some specific projects on the horizon that could be included.

Councillor Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, wondered if the detail about directors serving without remuneration needs to be mentioned among the special provision details.

"I guess the thing is that if at some point we decided that some of the public members that we would want to actually pay somebody because they're going to be the chair or they're an important individual," he said. "I would prefer we just left out those four or five words."

He suggested some determination about that be left to future board members to decide.

"I don't know if this is set in stone or what?" Carter said.

Ovell said it was a common clause found in other business cases staff read through.

"The county, as the sole voting member, could amend policies whenever," Ovell said. "It doesn't require an AGM so to speak. If this was a traditional not-for-profit, that could only be done at an annual general meeting."

Red sky at night
The sun sets over Algonquin Highlands. /Photo by Tammy Nash

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InOtherWords

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Thanks Uncle Ken

I GREW UP listening to stories of World War II from my Uncle Ken. He lived in Emsdale, Ontario, not too far from Minden. He wasn't really my uncle, technically he was my great-uncle, but that title was way too long for me to say.

My Uncle Ken was a naval gunner on the HMCS Arnprior. The Arnprior was a castle-class corvette which served as a naval escort for most of the war. He saw combat during the Battle of the Atlantic. The stories that he told me growing up ensured that I never wanted to join the military myself.

THOMS SMITH
Editor

The purpose of the Arnprior as an escort corvette made the jobs of U-boats difficult. When a U-boat was spotted, it was all hands on deck. This would force the U-boat to submerge, making it unable to use its guns and make firing torpedoes more difficult.

My Uncle Ken lied about his age to get into the Navy. He wanted to join the airforce, but his vision was not good enough.

He would tell me stories whenever my family visited his house in Emsdale. Many stories were about ships that had surrendered. One time, when he and his fellow crew members boarded a vessel, they threw grenades in to clear the ship out. My Uncle Ken described it as a cleanup crew that would follow other ships along. Any survivors that were left after a fight, their ship picked them up.

He would tell me a story of when he jumped in the water to rescue a survivor. When he grabbed the man and began to climb on the side of the Arnprior, he noticed blood pouring from the man's body as both of his arms had been blown off. The man survived and gave my uncle Ken his hat in gratitude.

I can only remember seeing that hat once, on a special occasion.

The war was not kind to my Uncle Ken. It had deeply affected him. After the war, he returned home to my Auntie Dorrie and started his family with two kids, while opening his home to many others.

Nightmares would keep him up at night. Every time we visited him, he would recount the same stories. Often, he would repeat them. When I became a teenager, I started asking him more questions about his service and he was eager to answer them, tales of sailing around the world. He had seen horrors and wonders and everything in between.

It was only much, much later in his life when he was given treatment for his mental health and learned about post-traumatic stress disorder.

I lost my Uncle Ken in 2017 after a long battle with Alzheimer's. Every Remembrance Day, I am thankful for his service. I remember his stories that he chose to share with me. I feel heartbreak knowing that some stories passed away with him, or were stolen by his Alzheimer's disease.

I wish I could have more time with him.

I would like to thank the veterans that served in our area. I wish the families and loved ones of the veterans that have passed my sincerest condolences. Their memories should never be forgotten, their stories should be cherished and shared forever.

Never forget.

"Don't panic yet. Maybe it's cake."

Zigging and zagging

ONE OF the greatest myths about outdoors sports is that hunters pursue "poor, defenseless ducks."

There is no such thing.

Just ask any duck hunter.

It is a little-known fact, but, these days, ducks give far better than they get. If the truth were to be told they torture us and cause our loved ones to worry about our mental health. Sure, the fact that we talk to our decoys doesn't help either, but, believe me, it is more about the ducks.

STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

For instance, one of their classic moves to drive a waterfowler crazy is zigging when they should be zagging.

You might think this is a minor thing, but believe me, it is not. For, if they zig and you zag, this means you missed, which means the recoil from your shotgun has punched you in the shoulder yet again, and for no good reason. And to make matters worse, the duck will zig when you zag on your follow up shots too.

Zigging also has a stiff economic price – especially since the cost of a box of duck loads these days is approximately the price of your first car. So, even if successful, the average duck hunter spends somewhere around $450 dollars a duck.

Worst of all, zigging has an emotional cost. You see the average duck hunter will expend a lot of time in the pre-season building up confidence on the shooting range, breaking clay pigeons that are polite enough not to zig or even zag.

By the time the target season is over, they will actually believe that the ducks won't stand a chance. But all this self-esteem is shattered by the end of the second hunt – so much so that 50 per cent of new hunters give it up in order to spend more time at the golf course.

Which makes a lot of sense since the flight of a golf ball is more predictable, making them much easier to hit. And they taste at least as good as a fish duck too.

Frequently missing has other emotional implications too, such as the heavy guilt that comes from constantly lying to your friends and family when they ask how your hunt went.

Needless to say, there are optimists who think that the solution to all this is easy. These rubes believe that all it takes to hit a duck is for your gun's bead to zig when the duck zigs.

In theory, this ought to work. But in real life what happens is that the duck decides to zag at precisely that time. Who knows why?

I personally believe that they have received some sort of advanced training from the ammunition companies. If you think about it, this is a win-win for both – and even better for the shareholders.

Regardless, every now and again, we end up accidentally hitting a duck or two. This means we get to take home a fine wild game dinner, which though expensive, is thoroughly enjoyable. This is all it takes to keep us coming back for more.

Personally, I still hold out hope. After all, we can send a man to the moon and some people can even figure out their TV remotes, so we will surely one day find a way for hunters to hit ducks consistently.

It's won't be easy, but I'm positive one day some genius is going to quack the code.

InOtherWords

Columns and Letters to the Editor

The *Handmaid's Tale* revisited

THE HANDMAID'S Tale by Margaret Atwood was published in 1985 and hit the mainstream media as a TV series starting in 2017, with a sixth season pending. It is undeniably a dystopia, a desperately bleak world characterized as patriarchal, totalitarian, and theonomic (which means governed by 'divine' laws).

The Republic of Gilead, the world of the novel, is a patch of North America within the Colonies, a Gulag where the misbehaving are sent to sort through radio-active debris. Sterility is wide-spread because of environmental degradation, so women who are fertile are a valuable commodity. They become Handmaids whose job is to bear children for high-ranking men, called Commanders, when their wives cannot. (It is presumed, of course, that it is the women who are sterile.) During the time in their monthly cycle when Handmaids are potentially impregnable, a ritualized event takes place where the Handmaid lies between the legs of the Wife while being sexually serviced by the Commander to whom she belongs. The naming of Handmaids reflects their status as concubines: they are Of-X, the name to the current Commander by whom they are owned. The protagonist in *The Handmaid's Tale* is Of-fred.

FAY MARTIN
Poke, Peel, Pair, Ponder

It's a gristly read and it has received its share of pushback from disgruntled possible readers – the seventh most challenged book in the 1990-2000 decade, according to the American Library Association. The push-back that Atwood has strenuously denied from the outset is that the book is science fiction, a work of imagination. Rather she calls it 'speculative fiction' because "I didn't put in anything that we haven't already done, we're not already doing, we're seriously trying to do, coupled with trends that are already in progress... So all of those things [in the book] are real, and therefore the amount of pure invention is close to nil" she says, in a 2006 article in the *University of Toronto Quarterly.*

Atwood also called the book a 'cautionary tale', which was poo-pooed by many on many grounds. It wasn't believable enough. Even if the individual aspects of the dystopia existed somewhere sometime, they couldn't/wouldn't come together in the way they did in the book. Even if that might happen somewhere sometime, it couldn't/wouldn't happen here and now.

Maybe not. Maybe so.

Carol Off, in *At A Loss for Words: Conversation in the Age of Rage*, published by Random House in 2024, reports on an interview with Atwood at her home in June 2023. Off asked Atwood, "'What does it mean to you that this image of the red-clad Handmaid has become the international symbol for the present state of women's rights? You've captured the moment.' Her answer: 'Who cares? I'm supposed to be happy that there's a necessity for this image to be used? That's supposed to make me satisfied? I would much rather that people had paid attention earlier and that this was not necessary.'" (p 254)

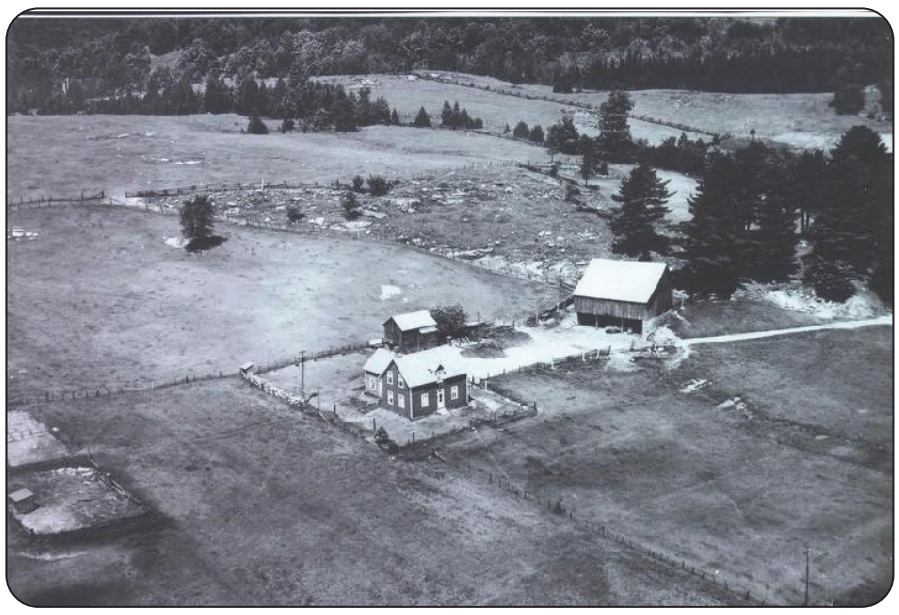
Atwood wrote *The Handmaid's Tale* in the era of Ronald Reagan; it was 'discovered' in the era of Donald Trump. Atwood showed Off her collection of feminist literature that informed her belief that the rights of women will be challenged whenever they rise, that the cycle will continue as long as, says Atwood, 'our vigilance slackens over time.' We are lulled into a state of false security. We forget that change is a constant. We talk ourselves into believing that we deserve a rest, that goodness will hold while we enjoy the fruits of our labour.

Demonstrably not so.

The frontispiece of Carol Off's book cites George Orwell in *Nineteen Eighty-Four*: 'It's a beautiful thing, the destruction of words.' Then she delves with journalistic fervour and discipline into the history of usage of six words: Freedom, Democracy, Truth, Woke, Choice, Taxes. (She doesn't include Feminism, but she acknowledges that Atwood had done a similar deep dive using a different genre of exposition.) She paints a disturbingly convincing picture that while our vigilance was slackened, the infrastructure of each of those six words was methodically dismantled to set the table for the political/cultural/social/economic debacle we are now witnessing. There is no going back, no Making America Great Again. There is only rediscovering and recreating the reality those words once represented. Doing the methodical, difficult, time-consuming work of identifying and reclaiming the core values. Pounding the pavement to find the words, perhaps new words, that can bind us together in community. That can recover the necessity and goodness of living in harmony -- within ourselves, with each other, with nature, with the world.

Our work is cut out for us.

Minden Memories



A photo of the Stevenson homestead. The Stevenson homestead covered the area were Archie Stouffer elementary school is now. /Photo courtesy of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

letters to the editor

Support celebrity clowns

To the Editor,

Have you considered the significance of your contributions during this pivotal time of year?

Every single dollar you donate to our Rotary projects throughout the year is reinvested back into the community, supporting local non-profits that make a real difference. So, when you spot the Minden Rotary Celebrity Clowns –dressed up and spreading joy in a parade, distributing little red noses, and pulling a "red wagon with a big red nose" – please open your hearts and give generously. We're more than happy to collect any loose change you can spare!

Think about that jar of coins you have at home – the one where you toss your keys, or that bowl of change that sits on your dresser. Each bit of spare change adds up, transforming into meals for the food bank, warmth for families during the cold winter months, and projects that uplift children and enhance our community.

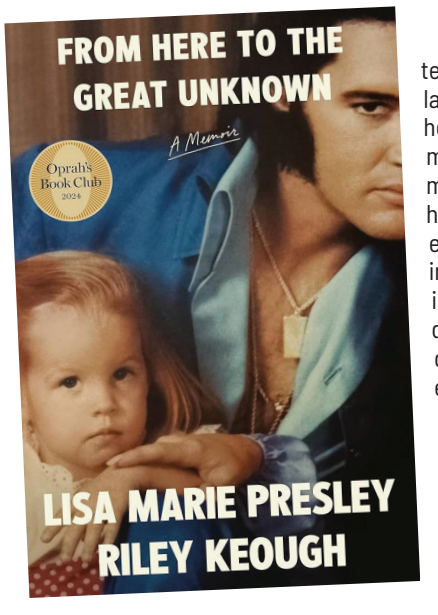
We invite you to bring your change or your wallet to the upcoming Santa Claus Parades in Minden or Haliburton. When you see the "Big Red Nose" on the red wagon, drop your coins or cash inside as it passes by, or hand it to a Minden Rotary Celebrity Clown. As a token of our appreciation, we'll gift you a little red nose!

If you happen to forget your coins, don't worry! We have a convenient donation button on our website, mindenrotary.ca. When making an online donation, please let us know a Celebrity Clown sent you! Your support means the world to us.

Thank you for being a part of our mission to create positive change in our community.

Sally Moore
Minden Rotary Celebrity Clowns,
Minden

HCPL's Book of the Week



In 2022, Lisa Marie Presley asked her daughter, Riley, to help finish her memoir. A month later, Lisa Marie died, leaving her story untold in her own words. Riley, determined to honor her mother's wish, listened to Lisa Marie's recorded memories of her life, including her bond with her father, Elvis, and her tumultuous experiences with love, addiction, and grief. The resulting memoir, *From Here to the Great Unknown*, is a collaborative effort between mother and daughter, blending their voices across life and death. It reveals Lisa Marie's complex life and emotions, offering a deeply moving, intimate portrait of her.

From Here to the Great Unknown by Lisa Marie Presley and Riley Keough is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.

DH3 brings Diwali celebration to the Highlands

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Editor

While many people in Haliburton County have celebrated Diwali privately, this year, Dance Happens Here Haliburton (DH3) is hosting what they believe to be the first public Diwali dance event.

Myra Stephen, member of the DH3 committee, says that Dance Happens Here is always looking for new dancing experiences to bring to the county. In the past, they have put on a salsa night and a Kolomejka to celebrate Ukrainian heritage.

Chair Jim Blake proposed the idea of bringing a Diwali celebration to the county. Diwali is a Hindu festival of lights that is now celebrated by many other religions from India. Diwali celebrates the victory of Dharma over Adharma. Blake thought that this celebration of the light would be perfect during the season's changes in Haliburton.

For their Festival of Lights, DH3 is bringing in Karim Khimji with his band Safari Sounds. The band uses traditional instruments such as the tabla and dholak and features two singers and three musicians.

DH3 will also be welcoming Paromita Kar who will perform Rajasthani folk style dancing in addition to Bollywood dancing. Paromita has a PhD in Dance Studies from York University and is a performer of the classical Indian Odissi dance, training under Odissi maestro Guru Durgacharan Ranbir of Odisha, India, as well as a performer of folk dances of Rajasthan. Participants to this event will be taught dance moves and are heavily encouraged to participate in this event.

Food will be provided by Masala Kraft from Lindsay to serve authentic Indian food. A variety of Indian sweets will be available. Foods that will be served will include daal tarka, chana masala, kadhai chicken, jeera rice, boondi raita, and more.

Stephen is particularly excited about this event with the approaching winter. "This event helps spread joy," says Stephen. We hope people will come out, enjoy themselves, and dance, says Stephen.

"This event is good for families, we would like to have whole groups of people there," says Stephen. "People are really excited about it."

Stephen says that to her, Diwali is about love, the triumph of light over darkness, the triumph of good over evil.

"There is a lot of anxiety, so to have a festival that showcases love, that is a great thing to celebrate."

Over two thirds of the tickets available for this event have been sold. It is highly recommended to act now before tickets sell out. Tickets will only be available at the door if they are not sold out beforehand. Tickets can be purchased on Eventbrite through the DH3 website at www.dancehappenshere.com. The event takes place on Nov. 16 at the Haliburton Legion. Doors will open at 6 p.m.

Something blue
A fall blue jay. /Photo by Tammy Nash

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Ontario

Minden Hills remembers

Despite the rain, there was a large turnout to the Remembrance Day events in Minden on Monday, Nov. 11. /THOMAS SMITH Staff

Kinmount remembers

Dean Curtis from the Kinmount Legion (wearing red banner) and Branch President Ira Peters salute the flag bearers at Kinmount's Remembrance Day ceremony. /Submitted

Kinmount Legion Branch 441 President Ira Peters speaks to the crowd.

Community events sponsored by

Lisa Mercer

RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH

Don't keep me or your event a secret!

lisa@lisamercer.ca
cell: 705.457.0364
Follow me on Facebook!

Broker

Not intended to solicit properties already listed for sale

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Craft Sale - Ladies Auxiliary

Haliburton Legion is holding a craft sale on Saturday, Nov. 16 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
An extensive variety of crafts created by 40 talented vendors will be available. This is a great day to start your Christmas shopping and enjoy lunch in the Schofield Room Cafe.

Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library Christmas Book Sale

When: Sat., Nov. 16 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Minden Hills Branch,
176 Bobcaygeon Rd. Minden
We look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Book Sale! Choose from a variety of gently read books: thrillers, mysteries, romance, biographies, children and youth selections, Canadian authors, fiction, science fiction/fantasy, sports, spiritual and other non-fiction books. Payment is by cash or cheque donation. All money raised by the Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library supports library enhancements and programmes for all libraries in the county.

AH Virtual Enviro-Cafe

When: Tues. Nov., 19 at 7 p.m.
Where: Virtual (Zoom)
Featuring Dr Jennifer Penney who will talk about how we can adapt to extreme weather events caused by climate change. please register in advance by going to www.environmenthaliburton.org.

Christmas Luncheon & Bake Sale

When: Friday, Nov, 22
Bake Sale 11 a.m., Lunch 11:30 a.m.
Where: Highland Hills United Church,
21 Newcastle St. Minden, lower level
Enjoy a lunch of soup, sandwiches, goodies, tea or coffee. Check out the pies and other baked goods in our bake sale. Everyone welcome to enjoy a friendly gathering.

Recurring events

Weekly Meat Rolls

When: Every Saturday, 3 p.m.
Where: Coboconk Legion, Hwy 48 and 35
Join us for our weekly meat draw at the Coboconk Legion. Five spins for $10. The first four rounds are for highest and lowest score with two winners per round. The last round is for a prepare-it-yourself dinner for two. Additional spins for this round are available for $2 each. Call 705-454-8127 or email info@coboconklegion.ca for more information.

Join Scottish Country Dancing

When: Mon. Sept. 16 from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m.
Where: Fellowship Room of Haliburton United Church (10 George St.,)
Beginners absolutely welcome! No experience or partner needed! Please wear clothing you can move freely in and indoor (preferably soft-soled) shoes. Classes are $10 cash/class or register for the whole term for $110 (cash or e-transfer). Email haliburtonscottishcountrydance@gmail.com for more info or to register.

Christmas Toy & Food Drive 2024

Join the Haliburton County Home Builders' Association and help us to make a difference!

As the Christmas season commences, The Haliburton County Home Builders Association would like to encourage you to include its Christmas Challenge in your plans. Large or small, each gift will help fill the Christmas hampers distributed by the Food Banks in Haliburton County. If you aren't sure what to collect simply gather local gift certificates.

Option 1: Call - text 705-457-6901, email info@hchba.ca in advance to arrange a date to pick up your gifts. We will take them to the local distribution centers.

Option 2: Drop off your gifts at one of our partners. We will then pick up from there.

Partners:
Curry Chevrolet Buick GMC – 5065 County Road 21
Ridgewood Ford – 12560 Highway 35
Ridgewood Ford Sales

Other locations in Minden and Haliburton:
Cordell Carpet, Haliburton Home Hardware, Minden Home Hardware, Hudson Henderson Insurance Broker Haliburton/Minden, CIBC Minden, Ommmh, Minden Post Office, TD Bank Minden
Emmerson Lumber Ltd - Maple Ave.
Kohara & Co - Industrial Park Rd.

Drop off for the 4C's in Haliburton is Dec 6th and other locations Dec 14th

HCHBA Keystone Sponsors

Huskies: how our hometown team is coming out on top

by **EMILY STONEHOUSE**
Times Staff

It's been a monumental season for the Haliburton County Huskies.

Out of 135 other Junior A teams across the country, the hometown Huskies are currently holding the 15th slot in Canada, and second in the Eastern conference, with 17 wins out of the past 23 games. "That's a huge honour," said head coach and general manager of the team, Ryan Ramsay.

After a slew of different names and locations, the team settled in Haliburton County in 2021, and have been finding their footing fast, making their mark in the league early on. But with the age range of the players, many athletes are unable to stick around for too long before moving onto new opportunities in the hockey world.

"This past year, we lost a few players, and now, we're really considered to be a young team," said Ramsay. "But they're dialed in this year. They're playing what we like to call 'Husky Hockey' this year."

As a billeted team, with players living locally with residents around the area, Ramsay noted that the team is particularly close. "They're together a lot," he said, "and that helps them work together on the ice as well. They're a very close team."

Ramsay noted that the environment of the A.J. LaRue Arena plays an important role in the success of the team.

"At the beginning of the season, our attendance was down 20, maybe 25 per cent," he said. "There were a lot of nice Saturdays in October where people just wanted to be outside. I can't blame them, but crowds are definitely encouraged. It plays such a big factor."

Now that the team is firing up, the crowds seem to be joining in on their enthusiasm, and the energy is building once again. "The word around the league is that teams like to play here. It's a good atmosphere, a good hometown crowd," said Ramsay.

The success of the team isn't going unnoticed. Last week, Ramsay was selected by the Ontario Junior Hockey League to coach at the 2024 Battle of Ontario All Star Game. The series takes place in Smith Falls over Nov. 19 to 20, and Ramsay noted that a select few players from the Huskies will also be joining the star-studded team, though he was keeping the names under wraps until an official announcement was made,

Ramsay noted that an upcoming local game has been changed from Nov. 19 to Nov. 14 as a result of the All Star Game. Tickets from the game will be adjusted accordingly to the new date.

Ontario Invasive Plant Council promotes non-invasive plants

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Editor

On Oct. 21 and 23, the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust presented "Introduction to Terrestrial Invasive Plants of Haliburton County." Invasive species expert Vicki Simkovic presented to an online audience while representing the Ontario Invasive Plant Council. The session on Oct. 21 covered invasive species and how to identify them, while the session on Oct. 23 covered management options and solutions to prevent the spread of invasive species.

"Native plants evolved in native soils and climate with other native species and as a result native plants support a greater diversity and number of wildlife species. These native species are important because overall there has been a dramatic global decline in insects over the past 35 years. Flying insects are down 70 per cent and this loss is linked at least in part to the loss of their availability of their native host plants. Insects have co-evolved with specific host plants and often will not feed on non-native plants."

"With the loss of plants brings the loss of insects and in turn, a loss of birds as birds often rely on insects to eat and rear their young. An invasive species is one that has been introduced from another geographic region to a new area outside of its natural range. Once it's present, it has negative impacts to the environment, economy, and society."

Not all species introduced will be invasive, says Simkovic. Dandelions, for example, are an alien species that is not considered invasive. A spectrum of invasiveness ranges from minimally invasive to transformers that dominate the local ecosystem.

"A number of traits that make invasive species really successful is partly, that they are very adaptable to a lot of different climates, drought, and difficult conditions, tough urban climates and environments. They often have few predators so when they come to a new area, they often lose their enemies, predators, and herbivores that would have kept their populations in check." They often can reproduce quickly because they have high seed viability and high seed production and are very competitive. Some species like Buckthorn can leaf out really early in the spring and they don't leave their springs until really late in the fall, so they have a really long photosynthetically active period."

Invasive species of plants can be spread by wind, on animals, through waterways, horticulture, boating, and firewood movement.

"Invasive species are the second most significant cause of species extinction worldwide," says Simkovic. "In Ontario, we have the most invasive species compared to other provinces."

Invasive species such as phragmites alter wetland habitats and species like garlic mustard will out compete white trilliums.

Japanese knotweed, garlic mustard, dog-strangling vine, phragmites, wild parsnip, lily of the valley, goutweed, periwinkle, and Eurasian water-milfoil were also discussed.

Simkovic detailed the similarities between invasive species and native species.

On Oct. 23, Simkovic discussed management solutions for invasive species.

"It may not always be realistic to expect total eradication of invasive plants, but to try to manage them on a more basic level," says Simkovic.

Simkovic proposed three considerations for property management:

Prioritizing your work through early detection, controlling of satellite populations, and identifying high priority areas.

Consider effort, effectiveness, and precautions through things such as site accessibility, impacts of control measures, and the timing of species removal.

Obtaining permission and permits.

The Invasive Plant Council offers a Grow Me Instead plant guide that assists in choosing suitable non-invasive species for your garden. The guide can be viewed online at www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca.

Tree Lighting Ceremony
November 15th, 2024
6:00pm-8:00pm at the Village Green
Come and help decorate the tree, sing some carols and kick off this festive season at the Village Green located along Bobcaygeon Road between Water and Newcastle St.
Santa Claus Parade
November 16th, 2024
Parade Start at 11am!
The parade will begin at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, continue along Parkside Street and head south on Bobcaygeon Road, before finishing at the Township municipal parking lot off St. Germaine Street.
Non-perishable food items and letters to Santa will be collected during the parade.
For more information visit https://www.mindenhills.ca/events/
THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS
IN SEASON, EVERY SEASON

Huskies defeat the Buzzers 4-2

Another success goes to the Huskies defeating the Buzzers 4-2 on Saturday, Nov. 9. /TIM YANO Staff photographer

TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS

Notice of Special Council Meetings – 2025 Budget

The Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills is preparing its 2025 Municipal Budget.

Council at its November 21, 2024, Special Council meeting will receive an overview of the Draft Budget, input from the Public, and approve Water and Wastewater Rates.

The Adoption of the Water and Sewer rates will be considered at the November 28, 2024, Regular Council meeting.

Council will continue to consider the budget at several upcoming meetings

- **Tuesday, January 14, 2025**: Operating and Capital Budget review for the Fire Department; Public Works Department; and Administration.
- **Thursday, January 16, 2025:** Operating and Capital Budget review for the Community Services Department; Planning Department and Building Department.
- **Tuesday, February 4, 2025**, Adopt and Finalize the 2025 Budget.

Please note that dates are subject to change and are dependant on deliberation discussion and direction.

Supported material including the Budget Book will be provided on the agenda(s) located on the CivicWeb portal site.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Vicki Bull, Clerk
Township of Minden Hills
705-286-1260 ext. 515
vbull@mindenhills.ca

Township of Algonquin Highlands

SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS

Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the lands described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on November 27, 2024, at the Algonquin Highlands Municipal Office, 1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands Ontario.

Description of Lands:

1. Roll No. 46 21 004 000 41500 0000; 52935 BIG HAWK - NORTH SHORE, ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS; PIN 39299-0175 (LT); PT LT 23 CON 14 STANHOPE AS IN H268963; ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS; File No. 23-21. According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is $154,000 **Minimum tender amount: $14,565.36**
2. Roll No. 46 21 021 000 04310 0000; ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS; PIN 39100-0405 (LT); PT LT 10 CON 13 MCCLINTOCK PT 2 19R5505; ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS; File No. 23-32 According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is $26,500 **Minimum Tender Amount: $7,285.54**

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to, availability of road access, or any other matters relating to the lands to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers.

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. A full copy of the tax sale advertisement and further information about this matter is available on line at www.OntarioTaxSales.ca or www.algonquinhighlands.ca or you may contact Karen Mintz, Tax Administrator, The Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands, 1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands ON K0M 1S0, Phone: 705-489-2379 Ext. 323, Email: kmintz@algonquinhighlands.ca

Santa visits Snowflake Meadows

Santa stopped by Snowflake Meadows a bit before Christmas this year. After posing with families and loved pets, some say they could hear the sleigh bells jingling as he left. /TIM YANO Staff photographer

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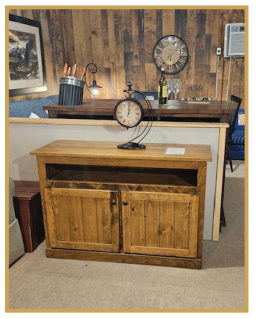
9 am - 5pm

This Week's Special



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8	6	3	7	1	5	4	9	2
4	1	9	8	6	2	5	3	7
7	2	5	4	9	3	6	1	8
5	8	7	6	2	1	9	4	3
1	9	4	3	7	8	2	6	5
6	3	2	5	4	9	7	8	1
9	5	6	1	8	7	3	2	4
3	4	8	2	5	6	1	7	9
2	7	1	9	3	4	8	5	6

THE Studio TOUR
HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS

Scan for application

Call to New Artists

to apply, visit our website at
thestudiotour.ca
or scan the qr code to be taken directly to the application.

Deadline to apply is
November 21, 2024

Township of Algonquin Highlands

NOTICE
SPECIAL MEETING

PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES
2025 BUDGET

TAKE NOTICE that there will be a Special Meeting of Council on **Thursday, November 28, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.**

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss projects and priorities for the 2025 Budget.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers located at 1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands. Members of the Public may also observe the Council meeting by joining a live-stream link. The live-stream link can be found on the meeting Agenda at https://algonquinhighlands.civicweb.net/portal/

Dated this 13th day of November 2024.

Dawn Newhook, Clerk/Deputy CAO
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1S0
Tel: (705) 489-2379 ext. 333
dnewhook@algonquinhighlands.ca

Avi Federgreen's *Home Free* and its message of hope

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Editor

After deciding to direct his own movie after 30 years in the film business, Avi Federgreen recalled a script that he fell in love with nine years prior. *Home Free* had impressed Federgreen and he felt it was a story that resonated with him and one that he needed to tell. The scriptwriter, Reese Eveneshen (although not the original writer of the script) worked with Federgreen to smooth out a few bumps and get the script in workable condition.

"He did a stupendous job," says Federgreen.

After getting the script ready, Federgreen was ready to set out to secure financing. After being rejected twice, Fedeergreen felt the film industry that he had worked in for thirty years had abandoned him, and he attempted suicide.

"I was devastated," says Federgreen. His father-in-law offered Federgreen the money he needed to finance the making of Home Free. Federgreen credits his wife and father-in-law with saving his life.

"A lot of people think that it is all glamour," says Federgreen. "It's not, it's a dark place."

Home Free discusses several heavy topics such as medically assisted dying, mental health, and sexual assault against children.

The first table read for the script of *Home Free* was in May 2020 over Zoom. After the table read, actor Michelle Nolden offered Federgreen her home and property in Paris, Ontario and barn for filming, saying that it was the perfect location. Without a large budget, Federgreen knew that Nolden's property would be the perfect filming location.

"It was exactly the kind of house that I was looking for," says Federgreen. The majority of the film was shot at Nolden's property in Paris, Ontario, with filming taking around 17 days.

"Every film has its hang ups but we were extremely prepared," says Federgreen.

Throughout the filming process, Federgreen accepted input from cast and crew, involving them at every stage. He believes this process allowed everyone to "have skin in the game," making it a stronger and more collaborative film.

Federgreen has taken *Home Free* to six festivals already. The film, which was recently featured at the Haliburton International Film Festival, is about a family that returns for the anniversary of their parents. There, the three estranged daughters learn that their father is dying of cancer. Secrets are uncovered and the family is changed forever through the course of the weekend.

Several filmgoers have approached Federgreen to share their own struggles. Audience members have shared stories of their sick loved ones and that the film has deeply resonated with them. Federgreen hopes that the film is able to touch many lives and help the journey of those struggling. He says that the film will not only resonate with residents of Haliburton County, but with anyone that has dealt with difficult familial relationships and trauma.

"This film has given many hope. That is the power that filmmakers have in telling these stories," says Federgreen. "I don't think filmmakers take that very seriously."

Federgreen encourages everyone to create the art that they want to create and that everyone has the capabilities of making their own film.

"You can't let anyone stand in your way," says Federgreen.

The annual Heat Bank online and in-person auction raised over $46,000 for the cause during their fundraiser on Nov. 10 at Rhubarb Restaurant. /Photo submitted

Heat Bank fundraiser warms hearts

The annual fundraiser for Central Food Network's Heat Bank program hosted by Rhubarb Restaurant, was warmly received by the community, raising an incredible $46,065! The event included a seated dinner, a lively in-person auction, and an extensive online auction, bringing together the community in support of emergency heating assistance for vulnerable households in Haliburton County. Thanks to the generosity of attendees and sponsors, funds raised will provide essential firewood, heating fuel, and hydro support to help residents stay warm this winter.

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				1	5			
4			8				3	
				9		6		8
		7	6	2			4	
1		4						
		2	5		9			
	5		1		7			
3								9
2						8	5	

Level: Advanced

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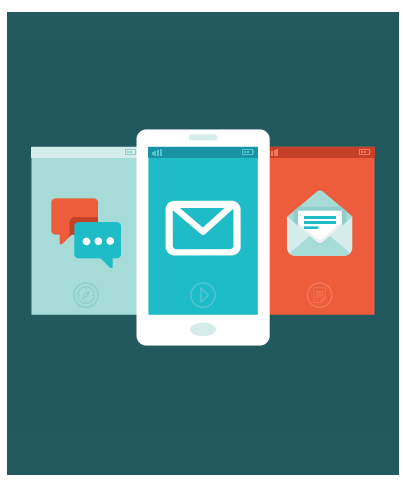
Answers on page 13



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
thomas@haliburtonpress.com

Canadian screen legend comes to Haliburton

by **JANEY TRULL**
Special to the Times

Actor and author, R.H. Thomson, will be the guest speaker at the annual Friends of the Library Fundraiser. You probably know R.H. Thomson best from his many roles on CBC productions. He was Jasper Dale on *Road to Avonlea*, and he played Matthew Cuthbert on *Anne with an E*. He's been an inspector on *Murdoch Mysteries*. R.H. Thomson has received many awards, including Geminis, the Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement and the Order of Canada.

R.H. Thomson is the author of a new book called *By the Ghost Ligh*t. This book is about the individual casualties of war. Human lives unfinished. As we recognize Remembrance Day this November, it is a real privilege to have R.H. Thomson join us in Haliburton to explore the stories we Canadians tell about war.

Like so many of us, Thomson inherited artifacts from the world wars that include photos of boys in uniform, medals for bravery, and even weapons. He was touched by the letters from uncles who did not return. "A family's strength – and occasionally its curse – is the stories it remembers, stories that create a map by which to navigate the years ahead," he says. This idea led him to imagine his ancestors telling their stories on a stage. As an actor, Thomson often returns to the stage after the play is over. It is a good place to reflect on the performance. His book describes a stage, illuminated by the "ghost light" where the reader is introduced to a cast of characters whose lives were forever altered by war. These include soldiers, grieving mothers, nurses, and wounded veterans.

Here in Haliburton County, we remember the war dead with cenotaphs, monuments and the recently refurbished Sherman tank. In Thomson's book, there's a photograph of a German trench mortar in front of his high school. He says that, "the narrative we all learned was about heroism and sacrifice in Canada's fight for democracy and freedom." Thomson has started an ambitious project to add to these traditional war commemorations. It is called The World Remembers.

He says, "We must never lose sight of the fact that history is not the history of nations or ideologies but of people." This project, currently available for viewing at the National War Museum in Ottawa, names every soldier who fought and died in the Great War. All 9.5 million of them, from countries around the world.

Join the Friends of the Library on Sunday, Nov. 24 at the Haliburton Legion, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Tickets are $25, available at the Minden Library Book Nook, or by calling Sue Sisson at 705-286-2000. Proceeds from ticket sales and the silent auction will go to support our dynamic community libraries.

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The successful applicant will have experience in bookkeeping and strong computer skills with knowledge of Excel. Familiarity with NewViews Accounting software and Community Housing administration is an asset. A Vulnerable Sector Check is also required.

This position includes employer paid benefits after 3 months (medical, dental, vision and life insurance). Eligible to participate in the OMERS pension plan.

The wage will be $22-$30/hour based on experience. Position to commence January 2025.

Please submit your resume no later than 4:30 p.m. Dec 13, 2024 to:
Staanworth Non-Profit Housing, 44 Parkside Street, Minden, KOM 2KO
or emailed to manager@staanworth.ca

580 ANNOUNCEMENTS

540 COMING EVENTS

Poinsettia Tea Luncheon

Friday,November 15
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Now she will be accompanied by her own personal helicopter pilot and future husband, Rob Freeman.

All the best,
Linda

Minden Times

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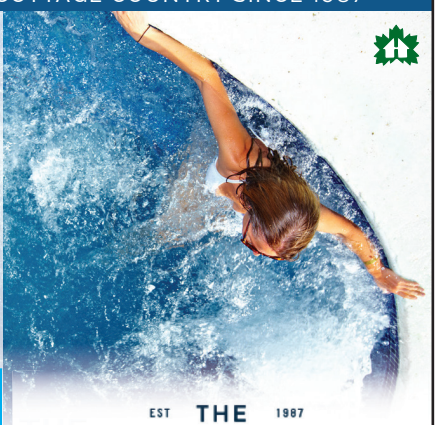

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Wednesday, October 29, 1986

HHSS honours top students

A capacity audience packed the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School auditorium last Saturday as students lined up to receive scholarships and honours at the school's annual awards night.

In his invocation speech, Reverend Ward Taylor talked of the importance of the search for knowledge, quoting the words of Solomon from the bible.

Then Principal Andrew Hemphill welcomed the crowd. "Tonight is a celebration of success," he said. "It is an exemplification of the maxim that if a job is to be done, it should be done well."

Mr. Hemphill thanked the staff, the school board, and the community for contributing to the success of the evening.

Making his chairman's remarks, Haliburton County Scholarship Fund chairman, Mr. Robertson Herlihey, also thanked everyone involved in the awards night; the students, the staff; the scholarship council and the donors of awards.

Awards were presented to the following:

Honour Students
Year 1

Katy Beach, Misti Campbell, Danny Connaughan, Shannon Curry, Lee Davis, Kelli Dollo, Heather Donaldson, David Emmerson, Jeffrey Francis, Dianne Garbutt, Roland Greber, Nicholas Holliday-Rhodes, Christa Irwin, Philip Johnston, Gerald Morrison, Darin Parish, Margaret Reiss, Mark Robinson, Krista Rydman, Alison Sisson, Sarah Stouffer, Darren Warburton, Sheri Whiteway and Kelly Youngdale.

Year 2
1 Year Honours

Jamie Bruce, Susan Flemming, Terra Mann, Ron Perrin, Michael Poppe.

2 Year Honours

Christina Bailey, Lorie Blackburn, Dwayne Cooper, Jaro Cooper, Aaron Davis, Deneena Davis, Tracy Emmerson, Tyna Hie, Christine Kasulke, Jackie Kleihauer, Susanne Long, Kimberley McCracken, Rowan Meggison, Nora Morrison, Terry Noble, Sheldon Perry, Jeleen Schroder, Robert Thomas, Robert Waller, Charlena Warder, Tanya Willis and Christopher Youngdale.

Year 3
1 Year Honours

Bradley Archer, Tricia Atkinson, Susanne Grubb, Derek Little, Marion Medcalf and Kendall Mintz.

2 Year Honours

Andrew Milne, Sharon Thornett and Gordon Wood.

3 Year Honours

Richard Beers, Lynn Bibby, Gina Brohm, Christopher Bunker, Andrew Cooper, Laura Cross, Judy Finlay, Darryl Goodall, Thomas MacLeod, Helga Myers, Lynda Pockett, Jeffrey Popple, Lyle Robinson, Clifford Smith, Lindsey Tashlin, Darren Whittaker and Lisa Williams.

Year 4
1 Year Honours

Kelly Gronberg, Michelle Landsperger, Alex Little and Shannon Robertson.

2 Year Honours

Gregory Hallman and Nicole Kanters.

3 Year Honours

Tina Anderson, Nancy Clement, Jennifer Gentle, Christopher Miscio and Sandy Sutherland.

4 Year Honours

Ian Cooper, Tony Hartin, Emma Postlethwaite, Barry Scully, Jamie Stata and Leanne Thomas.

Year 5
1 Year Honours

Heidi Tashlin.

4 Year Honours

Peter Allore and Tracey Jarrett.

(For more results and photographs, please turn to pages 14 and 15).

Smiling proudly for their parents and friends, the year one honour students pose after receiving their awards at ceremonies held Saturday evening at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

County Warden Harry Davis and Minister of Transportation and Communications, Ed Fulton discuss the route of their county roads tour.

Minister pleased with road tour findings

After his annual tour of Haliburton County roads last Friday, Ontario Minister of Transportation and Communication Ed Fulton said he is pleased with the way the county has spent its MTC roads subsidy.

The ministry regularly contributes a large part of all municipal and county roads budgets in Ontario. In 1986, Haliburton received approximately $2.8 million from the MTC - or 80 per cent of its total roads budget.

"I'm satisfied we're getting good value for our money," Fulton said in an interview after his tour. "There's certainly more work ahead, but so far I think the roads department staff and workers have done a commendable job."

The tour started Friday morning at the County Building in Minden and covered a loop extending to Eagle Lake, Haliburton Lake and Wilberforce. The route included county roads 1,3,4,6,14,16,18 and 19.

Acting as hosts were Victoria-Haliburton MPP John Eakins, Haliburton County Warden Harry Davis, members of the county roads committee Sinc Nesbitt, Keith Tallman, Dalton MacDonald and Bob Vick, and county roads engineer Bill Obee.

The purpose of the visit - it usually happends about once a year - is to give the ministry a chance to see how its subsidy is being spent and county roads officials the opportunity to discuss future projects. Or, as Warden Harry Davis puts it, "to show what we've done, what we expect to do and what money we'll need to do it with."

Davis said he is very happy with the way the tour went. "The minister was most impressed with the work that's been done," he commented. "These days, more than ever, the ministry is concerned about how its tax dollar is being spent. And rightly so, because its taxpayers' money."

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